

Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

The Spark Gap

Joan Kemp, N9DON President

Keith Cohoon, K9PDI V. President

Bob Doles, WB9AYB Sec/Treasurer

September 1991

KB9BGS/R
146.835

RESULTS OF AUGUST VE TESTING IN FRANKLIN

Alan J. Bowen	KB9GYH	Columbus	General
Judith Coe		Indy	NC Tech
Charles Hiles		Johnston Is.	NC Tech
Jason Nielson		Shelbyville	NC Tech
Todd Osman	KB9ECC	Bloom	Advanced
Reuben Schuff	KB9EGP	Indy	Extra
J. Strietelmeier		Columbus	NC Tech
Gary Sweeney	N9MHJ	Greenwood	General
Chad Whaley		Martinsville	NC Tech

WATCH YOUR R F OUTPUT !

Although there is lots of controversy over the effects of RF energy on the ham operator, there are some precautions that should be considered by anyone operating ham gear. Here are a few preventive measures mentioned in the August issue of Worldradio:

1. Keep your distance from power supplies or linear amplifiers even when they are in a stand-by mode.

2. Don't operate when linear shields are off.

3. Use coaxial rather than open-wire or end-fed lines for antennas.

4. Keep everyone away from your antennas when transmitting. This includes mobile antennas! The use of indoor antennas close to people should be reconsidered.

5. Use minimum power for QSO especially if your antenna is less than 35 feet above the ground.

6. HTs should be used on lowest power setting needed for QSO.

7. Keep HTs as far from the head as practical. Use a separate mike if possible.

8. Keep HT transmissions as short as possible.

These recommendations were made by a Dr. Shulman who has researched the subject.

HOMER AWARDED HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Homer, WB9OZZ was awarded an Honorary membership to the club at the August regular meeting. Congratulations, Homer!

STIFFER FINES FOR HAM VIOLATIONS

The cost of breaking the FCC rules has taken a giant leap up in what could cost your pocketbook! On August the first the commission released a policy statement that sets forth new standards for assessing fines in all radio services. According to the commission the new fine schedule not only increases the amount they can assess, but it also aids in their enforcement efforts. This because anyone thinking of breaking the rules will know in advance what the consequences will be. Here are a few rules that hams should be aware of: IF YOU FAIL TO PROPERLY IDENTIFY YOUR STATION in accordance with service rules you can expect to be notified that you owe a monetary forfeiture of ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS !

EXCEEDING MAXIMUM TOWER LIMITS OR USING AN UNAUTHORIZED MODE carries a 5 thousand dollar price tag. So does transmitting indecent or obscene material.

Even higher up on the ladder is a 6 thousand dollar fine for EXCEEDING AUTHORIZED ANTENNA HEIGHT LIMITS.

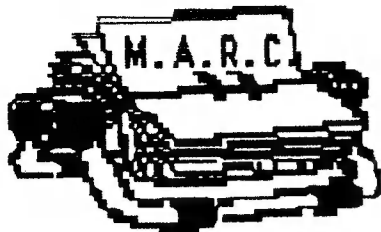
MALICIOUS INTERFERENCE or failure to respond to a commission communication will cost you \$7500. SENDING OUT A FALSE DISTRESS MESSAGE carries an 8 thousand dollar price tag ! These are only the base amounts and apply to all services except broadcast, cable and common carrier operators. These services face even stiffer fines for the same type of violations. These are for single count violations-- multiple count violations will bring stiffer penalties.

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER VEC TESTING

Sept 21	Rushville	N6RS	763-6090
Sept 28	Lebanon	NY9Q	482-1866
Oct 19	Franklin	NV9K	736-6320
Oct 26	Indianapolis	NQ9R	291-3569

NINE YEAR OLD PASSES TEST FOR EXTRA

Reuben Schuff, KB9EGP passed his Extra test in Franklin on Aug 17. This makes him probably the youngest Extra in the U. S.



New Members

Bill Brinkman, KA9ZMU who has been inactive has rejoined the MARC gang. Welcome back, Bill! He has been working on his associate degree in the electronics field and hopes to soon find employment in that area.

RADIO SHACK ENTERS THE 2 METER MARKET

A new 2 meter radio by Radio Shack should be available by the end of October. The HTX-202 is a handheld and features include twelve programmable memory channels and a large capacity Ni-Cad battery pack/charger. Radio Shack has been getting increasingly involved with ham radio after putting a 10 meter rig on the market recently.

NEW HAM RADIO VIDEO COMING!

There have been several videos made about ham radio for hams and for the general public. In 1974 it was MOVING UP TO AMATEUR RADIO. In 1979 it was WORLD OF AMATEUR RADIO. In 1983 it was AMATEUR RADIO'S NEWEST FRONTIER. In 1987 it was the NEW WORLD OF AMATEUR RADIO. There is now in production a new one called HAM RADIO IN SPACE which should be available in October of this year.

This new video is in 5 segments; You Can Fly, Ham Stations On Earth And In Orbit, Hams Go To School, Ham Radio In The

21st Century, and How Ham Radio Got Into Space. The video is targeted toward school classes with each segment lasting about 5 to 8 minutes. The theme is "How kids can share the adventure of space with the astronauts." The video will be available from ARRL and from a satellite feed that can be recorded and duplicated.



From the

President:

A special thanks to all those who attended the special meeting to vote on and adopt a new club constitution. It took us 4 1/2 hours but we completed it! NV9K volunteered to help WB9AYB and me put it together and get it to the printer. You may look for it in a few weeks.

Welcome to all new members! Especially KA9ZMU. We've missed you Bill!

Guest speaker for the september meeting will be Sam Williams, Johnson Co. Civil Defense Director.

The Elections Committee presented a slate to me last week. The candidates are:

President: Joe Vergara KA9ZPA

V. President: Keith Coboon K9PDI

Secretary: Bob Doles WB9AYB

Treasurer: Mac McCarty NV9K

Good Luck gentlemen!

As for me, I have enjoyed another year as your president. It has been interesting to say the least. Thank you all for your support. I will look forward to serving you again in the future!

73 N9DON Joan Kemp

**SEE YOU AT THE MEETING
SATURDAY!**

**Mid-State Amateur Radio Club
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